

The month of July has seen children and young people breaking up from school. RCT have lots of activities going on to keep them occupied over the summer holidays.

Sadly, our staff team have been blighted by the dreaded Covid which has resulted in almost 50% of us being off work during the last month. We are glad to report that as of this week, we only have one staff member absent with the virus.



SPOTLIGHT

Each month, the staff team are asked to select their Employee of the Month. This month Wendy was the winner! Wendy was voted thanks to all her hard work ensuring all of the admin for our adult services is always up to date. Wendy works incredibly hard and enjoys supporting delivery of our Haven group. She is also brilliant at keeping the brews flowing in the office!



Jack & Maggie attended the Money Max Roadshow at Middleton Arena to promote our menu of services and to reach out to people who are in need of our support. It was a great event where we met lots of local people and other organisations who were really interested in hearing stories about RCT's services. We are really looking forward to the next one!



Amber and Holly attended the Action Together Emotional Health and Well-being event earlier in the month. They shared stories of our work with vulnerable women and how we have "Supported the Supporters" with a celebratory event which was designed to thank volunteers for all their hard work over the last 12 months. This was funded by the Emotional Health and Well-being Network.



Amber and Jennie attended the Darnhill Festival earlier this month, where the theme this year was "Connections". We had our own lucky dip which was a big hit with the young people of Heywood. It was great to see the community coming together and the Amnesty Bee making an appearance. An extra big thanks to Liv our young volunteer who stayed all day to help out.



Jenny, Jennie and Sam attended Rochdale Training to deliver a session to a group of apprentices on Domestic Abuse. They discussed the impact abuse has on children and the importance of consent. The group interacted brilliantly, offered lots of thoughts to the session and learned a lot about all the topics covered.



We are thrilled to have been chosen by Cash for Kids Greater Manchester to help promote their vital work! A huge thank you to Jess, Lucy, and all the team for continuing to support RCT and our families. In 2020 and 2021 Cash4Kids were able to give emergency grants to RCT to help create wellbeing packs and activities to take to children and families we work with.



We are exceedingly proud to announce our representative Alex was recently appointed to a Leadership role on the GMYCA panel (Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority) to the position of Secretary. The purpose of the GMYCA is to advise the Mayor of Manchester on

key issues and concerns affecting young people and to suggest solutions. There were 5 Leadership roles to be filled and the audience of young people were given the opportunity to vote for their favourite. The competition was tough, but Alex won the panel over with a witty pitch that clearly demonstrated his passion about the importance of young people having a voice. The Secretary is a very important role as it involves managing local government structures and holding people to account. Well done Alex, we are thrilled to have our very own service user representing us to a wider audience in such a prestigious role.



Jennie and Sam completed delivery of the 15 week Healthy Relationships programme, "Best Life" at three secondary schools in time for the end of term. The feedback from the young people at all the schools has been amazing and they have learned lots about respect, positive self image, social media, identifying abuse. We will be back in September



Earlier this month, Amber & Jack attended the Srebrenica Memorial at TouchStones in Rochdale to pay respect to those who were killed in the Srebrenica atrocities in 1995. The theme of this year's memorial was combatting denial and confronting hatred. The Mayor, Councillor Ali Ahmed and Consort, Sultan Ali were joined by the leader of Rochdale Council, Councillor Neil Emmott, members of the community, the police and leaders of various faith and community groups, to remember the atrocity that took the lives of so many innocent Muslims. It was very heart warming and emotional to hear the stories of Mrs Nezira Cohadzic. The event concluded with community members lighting 11 candles to signify 11 pledges a community would take to end hate.



We would like to welcome the newest member of the RCT Family, Maggie! She is our new Adult Programme Worker and is a great joy to be around, always smiling and bringing positivity! Welcome Mags!



There was an exciting development on our Heritage Happens Here programme this week. We did a pocket adoption of a piece of land along Rochdale Canal. We will be spending the upcoming months taking care of the land and developing it into a beautiful space where we can relax with our families. Keep your eyes peeled for lots of exciting activities taking place. We can't wait to see the transformation that's coming!



Jennie and Ifra, our Youth Development Workers took members of the Darnhill Youth Group to Heywood Fire Station. They were there to collaborate with Heywood In Bloom by helping to prepare the displays for this week's judging.

The young people came along and got stuck into the weeding, prepping and painting of the planters and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience! Even the fire fighters helped too!

This was a great way for our young people to give something back to their local community and do some brilliant volunteer work. We can't wait to go back and help some more!

A very big thank you goes out to Dave Broome and Jill Risby for kindly asking their guests at their civil partnership celebrations to donate the money they would have spent on presents to Rochdale Connections Trust. Thank you for thinking of us. We will be using the funds to support summer activities for families.



Thank you

To Dave Broome & Jill Risby



RCT will be turning 25 years old on November 24th. We are holding a celebration event that will include a pie and peas supper upstairs at The Flying Horse.

Friday 25th November

STARTING AT 7 PM

£15 PER TICKET

**The Flying Horse
37 Packer St, Rochdale OL16 1NJ**

If you would like to join us at this momentous event, please contact Lizl on 01706 345111 or lizl@r-c-t.co.uk

If you wish to pay in instalments this is something we are pleased to offer

Tickets are still on sale for our 25th Anniversary Celebratory Event in November. If you would like to purchase a ticket please contact Lizl on 01706 345111 or lizl@r-c-t.co.uk. If you wish to pay in instalments this is something we are pleased to offer. The event will consist of a pie and peas supper upstairs at The Flying Horse in Rochdale on November 25th at 7pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

